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File Code: 3420

Date: April 11, 1996

Subject: Hazard Tree Survey on Lower Santa Ynez Recreation Area, Santa Barbara
Ranger District, Los Padres National Forest (FPM Rept. No. S96-1)

To: Forest Supervisor, Los Padres National Forest

All standing trees, alive or dead, within areas occupied by people, structures, and property present some level of hazard. A hazard tree contains some form of structural defect, particular locality or combination of both giving it a high possibility of failure and causing personal injury or property damage. For a hazard to exist there must be a valuable target: building, cars, or people within close proximity of the tree. Tree hazard control programs attempt to identify defective trees, assess the hazard posed by such trees, and implement measures designed to prevent accidents caused by their failures. The hazard rating system should provide a uniform standard of safety, should reveal that there are often numerous hazard management or mitigation alternatives that should aid in setting treatment priorities. To be most effective, hazard tree evaluation and treatment plans should be incorporated into the Vegetation Management Plan.

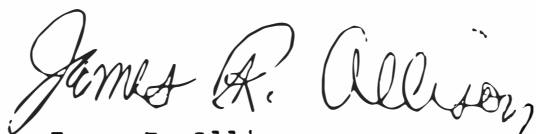
The oaks as a group have been responsible for more accidents or potential accidents in California recreation centers than any other types of trees. In fact, coast live oak is the most frequently reported hardwood species reported to the California Tree Failure Report Program. Coast live oak failures occurred most often at the root, while for other oak species, branch failures were the most common category. Decay was more frequently associated with coast live oak and other oaks than for other genera.

This write-up completes the hazard tree survey of recreation sites on the Lower Santa Ynez Recreation Area, Santa Barbara Ranger District. For the first part of the survey see FPM Rept. No. S95-2. The survey crew included James Allison, So. Ca. Service Area Pathologist and David Schreiner, Los Padres National Forest-SO.

The areas surveyed included: Red Rock Day Use Area; Government Housing; Hot Shots Barrack Area; and Live Oak Picnic Area.

The results listed on Inspection Record Sheets 1-6, indicate the presence of some hazardous or potentially hazardous trees and limbs in the Lower Santa Ynez Recreation Area and possible courses of action.

If you have any questions about this evaluation, please call James Allison at 909-383-5588.



James R. Allison
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Forest Pest Management

